

NORTHWOODS JOURNAL — JUNE 2023

A Free Publication about Enjoying and Protecting Marinette County's Outdoor Life

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Invasive Species Returns Again This Spring – European Frogbit

By Boulin Beck, Land Information Department

With the return of spring comes the return of new plants, one of them being *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*, otherwise known as **European frogbit** (EFB). Originally brought to North America around the 1930s as an ornamental plant, EFB has escaped into the waters of the Great Lakes and the surrounding lakes and river systems, recently settling into the bay of Green Bay.



EFB is a free-floating freshwater plant that prefers shallow, slow-moving, or stagnant water where it then creates dense-floating mats. These tangled mats then out-compete the native plants by reducing the amount of oxygen and light that enters the water. This also not only affects the habitats of birds and fish, it can also impede human activities like boating, fishing, or swimming in certain areas.

Once EFB settles into an area, it can be tricky to remove. EFB has 3 different ways to reproduce. One way is where the flower produces small fruits that contain many seeds within each one. But its main forms of reproduction are asexually through a horizontal stem, which then produces a new plant. Just like strawberries, these stems branch out from the original plant to create new ones. From these new plants, turions can develop. A **turion** is a bud that is able to grow into a complete plant. By the end of the summer the turions break off from the original plant and lay dormant throughout the winter only to sprout in the spring.



Amanda Smith, Water Resources Management Specialist for the Wisconsin DNR, pointing to an EFB plant, showing how small they are.

Last summer, Marinette County hired 4 interns to help combat the spread of EFB all around the

bay shore of Marinette County. **Throughout the summer, they manually removed a collective 3000 lbs. of EFB.** With this upcoming summer, the county will have 3 interns dedicated to the removal of EFB.



Boulin Beck removing EFB from Red Arrow Park.



Everyone who helped clean up the Peshtigo River - collectively 1000 lbs. of EFB was removed.

But you can help too! Once an infestation has been established, it's incredibly difficult to remove. Therefore, **the best way to combat it is to stop it from spreading in the first place.** After doing a recreational activity in the water, make sure to clean off any plants, animals, and mud from your boats, trailers, and any other equipment that entered the body of water; drain any water from your boat, bait container, and motor before leaving the water access, and properly clean them, and never dump any aquatic plants from one body of water into another.

If you spot European frogbit, please contact the local Wisconsin DNR office, Green Bay (920)-662-5100; or the Land and Water Conservation Division Office, Marinette, (715)-732-7780.

For more about EFB, visit:

- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/EuropeanFrogbit.html>
- <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/documents/classification/Hydrocharis%20morsus-ranae.pdf>



Printed Northwoods Journals Return this Summer in Marinette County

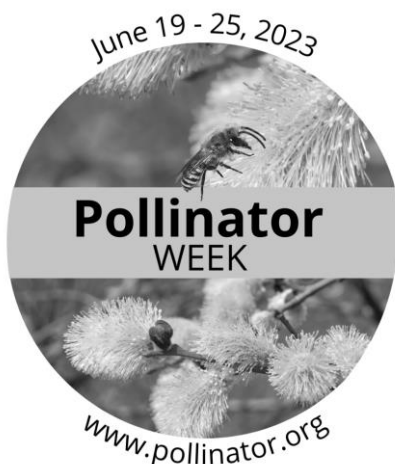


The June-August issues of the Northwoods Journal will return as a printed newspaper this summer and will be available at various locations throughout Marinette County. Printed newspaper issues will be available at various campgrounds, restaurants, gas stations, libraries, tourism centers, and businesses throughout the County. Copies will also be available at the County Courthouse and the County Resources Center in Marinette. The color PDF version will also be available for viewing online at <https://www.marinettecounty.com/departments/land-information/environmental-education/northwoods-journal/>.



Take Part in Pollinator Week!

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week>



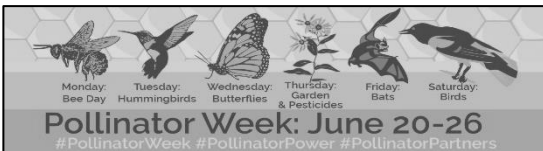
Pollinator Week is an annual celebration in support of pollinator health that was initiated and is managed by Pollinator Partnership. It is a time to raise awareness for pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them. **In 2023, Pollinator Week will emphasize the connections between climate and pollinators.**

Pollinator Week was initiated and is managed by Pollinator Partnership. In 2006, the U.S. Senate's unanimous approval and designation of a week in June as "National Pollinator Week" marked a necessary step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Pollinator Week has now grown into an international celebration, promoting the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats, beetles, moths, wasps, and flies.

Birds, bats, bees, butterflies, beetles, and other small mammals that pollinate plants are responsible for bringing us one out of every three bites of food. They also sustain our ecosystems and produce our natural resources by helping plants reproduce. Without the actions of pollinators agricultural economies, our food supply, and surrounding landscapes would collapse.



Pollinators are dying because their food and homes are disappearing, diseases have increased, and rising temperatures and natural disasters are affecting their ability to survive - all of which are related to climate change. At the same time, the conservation of pollinators and their habitats can help combat climate change by supporting healthy ecosystems, air, soil, water, and plants. Combined, these results make planet earth a safer place for us to live. These are big problems and the efforts that are made around North America and globally during Pollinator Week can help provide real solutions for the pollinators we all love.



Wisconsin Celebrates Pollinator Week!

Worldwide, approximately 1,000 plants grown for food, beverages, fibers, spices, and medicines need to be pollinated by animals. These include blueberries, chocolate, coffee, melons, peaches, pumpkins, vanilla, and almonds. In Wisconsin, crops such as apple, cranberry, cherry, green beans, cucumbers and other fruits and vegetables depend on pollinators. Honey and beeswax are also important products made in Wisconsin. Visit <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/pollinator-week/> for more about how you can participate in Wisconsin for pollinators!



Pollinator Partnership's mission is to promote the health of pollinators, critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education, and research. Signature initiatives include the NAPPC (North American Pollinator Protection Campaign), National Pollinator Week, and the Ecoregional Planting Guides. Learn more about how Pollinator Partnership is dedicated exclusively to the health of pollinating animals by downloading our Protecting Pollinators, People, and the Planet brochure!

"Native plants are essential for native bees because, unlike many non-native plants, they reliably produce the nectar and pollen that bees depend on."
- National Wildlife Federation



7 Things you can do to help pollinators

1. Plant native plants for pollinators
2. Reduce or eliminate pesticides in your yard
3. Register as a pollinator or habitat-friendly garden
4. Reach out to others – inform & inspire
5. Support local bees & beekeepers
6. Conserve resources – use less & reduce your impact
7. Support the work of groups promoting science-based, practical efforts for pollinators



Use these resources to help you celebrate and promote this year's Pollinator Week:
<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week/pollinator-week-resources>.

Northern Lights Master Gardener Association, Inc. & Harmony Arboretum Events this Summer!

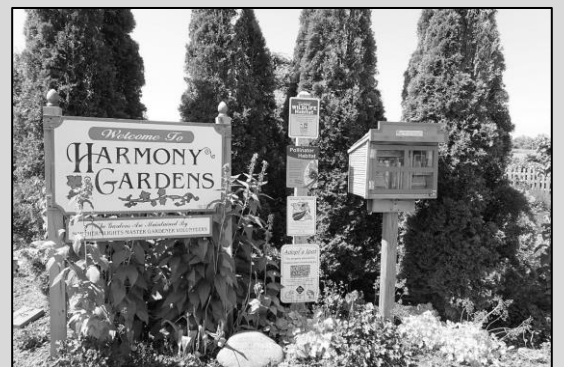


The Master Gardeners will be staying busy this season with education programs, summer events, and maintaining the Harmony Arboretum Demonstration Gardens. They are out at Harmony on Thursdays if you are interested in stopping by with questions, are interested in becoming a member, or just to take in the beauty of the gardens.

"Ask a Master Gardener" education series:

- **REGROWING KITCHEN SCRAPS**, Thursday, June 8 at Harmony, before membership meeting, 6:00 PM: Gisela Ravet will be teaching how to make the most of your kitchen scraps by regrowing them. This will include some fruits, vegetables and herbs.
- **COMPOSTING**, Thursday, June 22 at Town of Stephenson, Town Hall, W11280 Cty. Rd X, Crivitz, WI 54114 starting at 1:00 PM
- **COURDS**, Thursday, July 13 at Harmony, before membership meeting, 6:00 PM
- **MUSHROOMS**, Friday, July 21 at Field & Forest, Harmony, late morning TBA

Visit the Northern Lights Master Gardener Association, Inc. on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/people/Northern-Lights-Master-Gardeners-Association-Volunteers-NLMGA/100064749904702/>. To learn more about the Wisconsin Master Gardener program in general, visit <https://mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu/becoming-a-master-gardener/>.



Harmony Arboretum & Demonstration Gardens is a 460-acre country farm has been developed into a conservation and horticulture education and demonstration area. In the Arboretum is a majestic hardwood forest, winding walking trails, a restored prairie, and demonstration gardens. It is located at N3890 County E Peshtigo (7 miles west of Marinette on Hwy 64 then 1/2 mile south on County Road E).

More information about Harmony:

- <https://www.marinettecounty.com/departments/land-information/environmental-education/harmony-arboretum/>
- <https://marinette.extension.wisc.edu/horticulture/harmony-arboretum/>
- https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g60181-d6898441-Reviews-Harmony_Arboretum_Demonstration_Gardens-Peshtigo_Wisconsin.html



12th Annual Northwoods' Invasive Species Poster Contest Winners

<https://www.oclw.org/2023-northwoods-invasive-species-poster-contest.html>



The Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) is proud to announce the winners of the 12th Annual Northwoods' Invasive Species Poster Contest. Invasive species do not recognize county lines; therefore, the poster contest is open to any student in fourth through eighth grades in our Northwoods Area and the State of Wisconsin. Integrating invasive species into science, biology, and art classes is the perfect way to inspire future lake and river stewards.

Taking First place in all divisions were the following: 4th Grade, Lucy Henn, AVW School; 5th Grade, Ava Denny, Mellen School; 6th Grade, Jaylin Jaeger, Drummond Elementary School; and 7th-8th Grade, Keira Bollmann, Three Lakes Junior High.



Second place winners: 4th Grade, Lance Bruette, AVW School; 5th Grade, Mason Meade, North Lakeland Elementary, 6th Grade; Karsten Traaholt, Drummond Elementary School; and 7th-8th Grade, Riley Pappas, James Williams Middle School.

Third Place winners: 4th Grade, Hana LeBlang, AVW School; 5th Grade, Kaelyn Conley, Lake Superior Elementary; 6th Grade, Sabrina Glassmaker, Solon Springs School; and 7th-8th Grade, Bobbie Janczewski, Laona Junior High School.

Trophies and ribbons are distributed for first, second, and third place posters, honorable mention posters and creative slogans. (See attachment for a complete list of winners). Winning posters will become part of an Invasive Species poster calendar designed for distribution to schools and libraries throughout the Northwoods in the fall. In addition, the First-place winners' classroom receives a trophy and their school is awarded a "field guide" for their library.

Northwoods Journal Online

Do you want to read current issues of the *Northwoods Journal* online or catch up on past issues? Visit www.marinettecounty.com and search for "Northwoods Journal." We can also send you an e-mail reminder when a new issue is posted online, or we can mail you a paper copy if you prefer. Email Anne Bartels, Information & Education Specialist, at anne.bartels@marinettecountywi.gov or call 715-732-7780.

This year, 448 posters were received from 18 schools in 8 counties: Oneida, Vilas, Bayfield, Douglas, Forest, Price, Marinette, & Ashland. All posters received are on display on our "Walls of Fame" in the Courthouse Rotunda, on the second floor of the Oneida County Courthouse and will remain there during June, "Invasive Species Action Month".



Thank you, teachers and parents, for making our contest part of your student's educational journey, and a big thank you to drop-off locations, judges and the media. We could not hold this contest without you! Visit the Oneida County Land & Water website at <https://www.oclw.org/2022-northwoods-invasive-species-poster-contest.html> for more photos, winning posters and lists of honorable mention and slogan winners.

In 2022, Gov. Tony Evers proclaimed the month of June "**Invasive Species Action Month**" to encourage Wisconsinites to help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species that harm Wisconsin's native wildlife, wetlands, forests, prairies, lakes and rivers. *Invasive species are non-indigenous species, such as non-native plants, animals or pathogens, whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.*

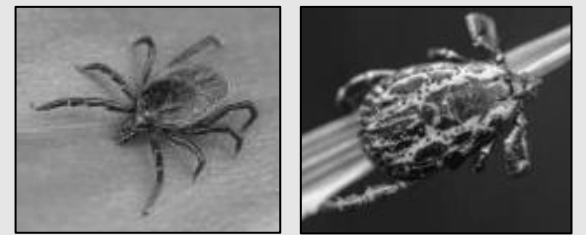
Humans move organisms around all the time, often without realizing it. When a non-native species is introduced to a new location, the species can take over and spread rapidly and widely throughout the area. When this happens, the spread can cause significant damage to the native ecosystem. Some non-native species pose a direct threat to human or livestock health by either direct contact or ingestion. More information about the impacts of invasive species is available on the DNR website.

In his proclamation, Gov. Evers recognizes the environmental and economic damages caused by invasives plants and animals throughout the state. "Millions of dollars, both public and private, are spent each year on the control of invasive plant and animal species in Wisconsin's waters, wild lands, agricultural lands, and urban areas," Gov. Evers said. Invasive species can succeed because they often leave their predators and competitors behind in their native ecosystems. Without these natural checks and balances, they can reproduce rapidly and out-compete native species. In response, the DNR is working with citizens and partners to slow the spread of invasive species through educational outreach, strategic planning and active management.

Information on how individuals and organizations can report, prevent and help control the spread of invasive species is available on the DNR's Invasive Species webpage.

Keep Watch for Ticks this Summer

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tick/wisconsin.htm> & <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/fight-bite/index.htm>



Deer tick & Wood tick

Ticks are commonly found in many areas throughout Wisconsin and can spread diseases to people and animals by biting them. Ticks feed on blood by attaching their mouth parts into the skin of a human or animal. During feeding, ticks release saliva that may contain germs. After you, your family members, or your pets spend time in the woods or areas with tall grass or brush, it is always important to check for ticks, especially in the spring, summer, and early fall.

Ticks are arachnids, related to spiders, mites, and scorpions. In Wisconsin, there are three types of ticks that can spread disease to people:

- The deer (black-legged) tick
- The wood (American dog) tick, and
- The lone star tick (below).

Nearly all illnesses spread by ticks in Wisconsin are caused by the deer tick. Most people who get sick from a tick bite will do so in the late spring, summer, or early fall, when ticks are most active, and people are outdoors.

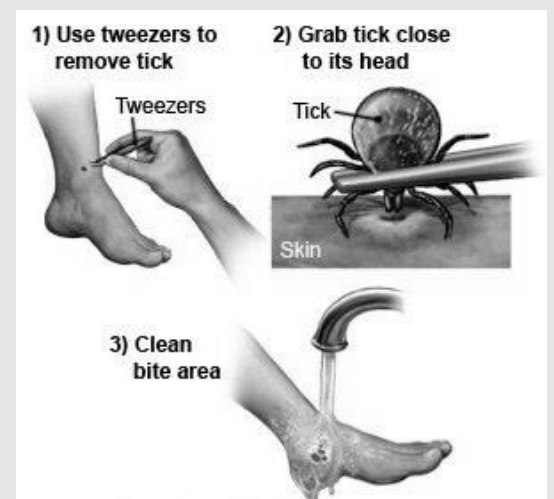


Tick removal: dos and don'ts

Don't panic if you find a tick embedded on your body. Simply remove it as soon as possible following these recommendations:

Do

- Grasp tick with a narrow-bladed tweezers as close as possible to the skin.
- If tweezers are not available, use fingers shielded with tissue paper or rubber gloves.
- Pull upward and out with a firm and steady tension



Don't

- Don't use petroleum jelly, a hot match, nail polish, or other products.
- Don't handle tick with bare hands.
- Don't squeeze, crush, or puncture the body of the tick, which may contain infectious fluids. Do not twist, as this can cause the mouthparts to break off and stay in the skin.



Provide Homes for Bees – Build a Bee Hotel

<https://naturehood.uk/naturehood-actions/wildlife-housing>



Not all bees live in hives or big groups. Some of them will use spaces in your garden instead! Solitary bees are known to use bee hotels, which are sheltered spaces made up of hollow tubes that mimic a nest. This is where they breed and lay their eggs safely. Larvae hatch from these eggs and use the hotels as a safe space to grow over the winter months. The easiest way to tell if your hotel is being used is just to have a look - if the entrance to the tube is sealed with leaves or mud, it's occupied.

What to look for in a bee hotel

- The tubes should vary in diameter between 2mm and 10mm and be 10cm deep. They should be smooth inside and have a solid back wall.
- Bee hotels should be built from wood and other natural materials (preferably recycled or FSC certified), avoiding glass or plastic which can get damp and grow mold.
- To prevent the spread of disease and parasites it is better to have several small hotels around the garden, rather than one big resort.
- You can build your own bee hotel using this step-by-step guide at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/nature-on-your-doorstep/garden-activities/build-a-bee-hotel/>



Looking after your bee hotel

To keep your guests visiting every year:

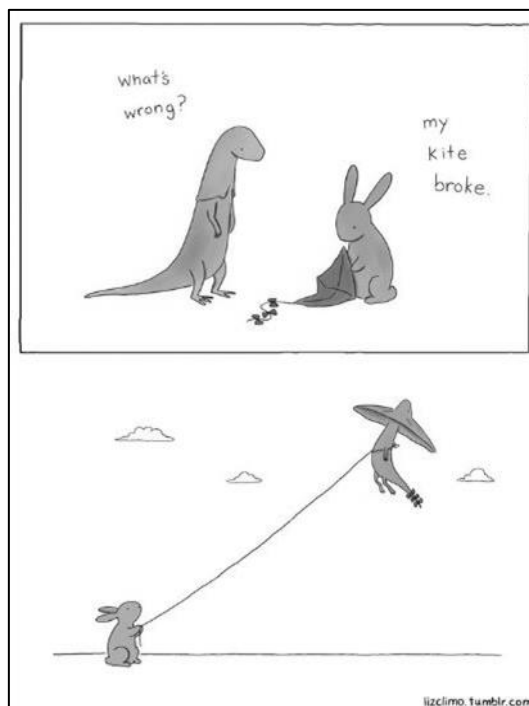
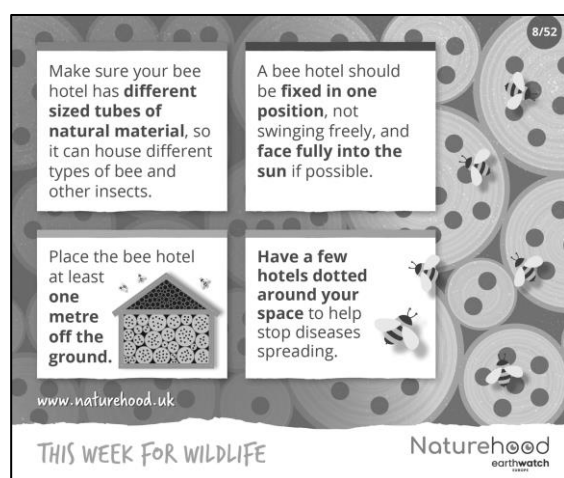
- Keep the hotel dry at all times. Move the hotel inside to a dry and unheated spot during autumn and winter (October to February) to protect the nesting bees for example, within a garden shed. Bring the hotel back out again in March in time for the juvenile bees to emerge.
- Clean out the tubes that are still blocked once most larvae have flown in the spring to avoid growth of mold and mites.
- Replace the hotel, or the tubes inside every few years.



Where should I put the hotel?

Your bee hotel should be securely fixed to a wall or a tree, not swinging freely, and have pollen-rich flowers nearby.

Place the hotel at least a meter off the ground and ensure there's no vegetation blocking the entrance. It should face fully into the sun (south or south east). To keep the hotel dry, make sure the tubes are horizontal or angled slightly downwards, to stop them from filling with rainwater.



Happy 50th Birthday to the Endangered Species Act!

Excerpts from

<https://www.doi.gov/blog/endangered-species-act-celebrating-50-years-success-wildlife-conservation>



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, providing the opportunity to reflect on the progress made and the work ahead for protecting our nation's endangered species and their habitats. The Act has saved hundreds of species from extinction and continues to protect and preserve some of our most beloved animals and plants. It has also helped to create a better understanding of how human activities can impact the environment and how we can work together to protect it.

The ESA was enacted in 1973 as a response to the declining populations of many species of animals and plants. The Act was designed to protect and recover species at risk of extinction and to promote the conservation of ecosystems and habitats necessary for the survival of those species. By conserving them, guided by the best-available science, we help protect healthy air, land, and water for everyone.

The ESA was enacted to protect and recover species at risk of disappearing forever. It has become one of the most significant wildlife conservation laws in the United States and has proven instrumental in protecting numerous species.

Animals, plants, insects, and all living things are part of the balance of nature that our world relies on, but today there are still species at risk of being lost forever. Plants and wildlife make our lives better. And they need our active protection. We have an obligation to protect our planet's biodiversity now and for future generations.

Iconic Species Make a Remarkable Comeback

In its first 50 years, the ESA has been credited with saving 99% of listed species from extinction thanks to the collaborative actions of federal agencies, state, local and Tribal governments, conservation organizations and private citizens. Some examples are the bald eagle, the Kirtland's warbler (below), the American alligator, whooping cranes, and peregrine falcons (visit the website above for more details about each species' recovery).



For more about the ESA and the species it's helping to recover & protect, visit the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service official ESA website at <https://www.fws.gov/program/endangered-species>. Here are a few other websites too:

- <https://esa50.org/>
- <https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/the-us-endangered-species-act>
- <https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/esa/index.html>





STRONG FALLS TRAILS
GRAND OPENING

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

N13980 HARPER RD; ATHELSTANE, WI
COUNTY RD I TO CAMP 5 RD, WEST OF MCCLINTOCK COUNTY PARK

FIND MORE ABOUT STRONG FALLS TRAILS AT:
EXPLOREMARINETTECOUNTY.COM

NO BIKE? NO PROBLEM!
A LIMITED NUMBER OF DEMONSTRATION BIKES
ARE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE
ALL SKILL LEVELS

TRAIL RUN 8:30AM
VARIOUS DISTANCES

RIBBON CUTTING 10AM
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

FOOD TRUCK
THERMAL CHAOS BBQ

LIVE MUSIC
SCOTT YOUNG

GUIDED TRAIL RIDES
M.A.M.B.A.

SPONSORED BY **MARINETTE COUNTY & MARINETTE AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOC.**



Marinette County is excited to open our newest outdoor recreation feature – **Strong Falls Trails**, on Saturday, June 3! Strong Falls Trails are located off Harper Road in the Town of Silver Cliff, not far from McClintock Park.

This 11.5-mile trail system is optimized for mountain biking and is also available for hiking. Grand opening activities begin at 8:30 a.m. with an organized trail run, ribbon cutting at 10:00, followed by tasty eats from Thermal Chaos food truck, live music by Scott Young and of course - trail riding!

If you don't have a bike to bring with you, a limited number will be available at no cost. You'll also enjoy some unique art features at the trailhead.

Bring your family, bring your friends – from beginners to experts, there's something for all skills levels. See complete details above and keep current on details by following the Strong Falls Grand Opening event on the **Explore Marinette County Facebook** page: <https://www.facebook.com/ExploreMarinetteCounty/>. You can also visit the **Marinette Area Mountain Bike Association** on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/peshtigorivertrails/> or at <https://mambatrails.com/>.



WDNR Free Fishing Weekend & Free Fun Weekend – June 3 & 4

https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/angler_education/freeFishingWeekend &
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/adventure/freefun>

Wisconsin is home to 49 state parks, 15 state forests, 44 state trails, 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, roughly 15,000 lakes and so much more. No matter how you'd like to explore, there's something in Wisconsin for everyone. 'Free Fishing Weekends' are always held the third full weekend in January **and** the first full weekend in June; the 'Free Fun Weekend' is always the first full weekend in June.

State Parks

- Admission stickers are not required at any of our 49 state parks or 15 state forests
- All state parks are open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- [Explore a new hidden gem park property](#)



Menominee River State Recreation Area

Fishing

- Residents and non-residents will not be required to have a fishing license or trout/salmon stamps
- All [2021-2022 fishing regulations \[PDF\]](#) apply, including bag and length limits
- Locate [launches and shore fishing access points](#) near you
- Find a [Learn to Fish workshop or clinic](#) happening near you
- [Mark your calendars](#) – Free Fishing Weekends are always held the third full weekend in January and the first full weekend in June.

State Trails

- Trail passes are not required for both residents and non-residents
- All linear/rail trails are open to the public, including ATV trails
- Cyclists of any skill level can cover some miles with [Wisconsin's touring bicycle trails](#) – many along former railroad corridors



For more about Marinette County trails:

- <https://www.exploremarinettecounty.com/where-to-play/activities/>
- <https://traveltips.usatoday.com/wisconsin-s-ohv-atv-trails-107718.html>



Edible Landscaping Tips for Beginners

<https://www.treehugger.com/edible-landscaping-tips-beginners-5248277>



Edible landscaping, as the name suggests, is all about incorporating food-producing plants into a garden design. Landscaping usually focuses on creating visual appeal. But as you will learn, edible landscaping can be beautiful and useful, too. Blending the practical and the aesthetic is what edible landscaping is all about.

Edible Landscaping Options Suit a Wide Range of Environments

First and foremost, it is vital to design for a specific site. The edible options available to you will depend on where you live and the conditions to be found there.

It is easy to see how a forest or woodland environment might be adapted to grow a wide range of food. But it is important to recognize that foods can be found in many diverse settings. From arid xeriscaping schemes to edible pond and wetland plants, there are many options to consider. Even a wild lawn might produce food for you and your family to eat.

Embrace Perennial Food Sources

No matter which environmental conditions you are dealing with, one of the most important things in edible landscaping is recognizing that growing your own food at home is not just about growing annual crops in a vegetable garden.

The most familiar perennial edibles, like fruit trees, fruiting canes, and fruit bushes, can be a good place to begin for many sites. But there are plenty of other edible perennials to embrace, too. Be sure to seek out perennial alternatives to traditional annual crops when it comes to leafy greens, alliums, root crops, and more. These can look wonderful in mixed landscaping, and provide food not just over a single season but year after year.

Blend Annual Crops and Flowers

Many gardeners will rely on bedding plants of annual flowers (or flowers treated as annuals) to create beautiful beds and borders. But polycultures of annual fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers can provide food in addition to looking good.



By growing edible annual crops (as well as plenty of perennials) in their growing areas, gardeners can create diverse and attractive displays which are as useful as they are attractive. Annual food production certainly does not always have to mean growing annual fruits and vegetables in neat and orderly rows.

Layering Is Important In Edible Landscaping

When trying to make edible landscaping as low-maintenance, productive, and beautiful as possible, layering is key. You should layer edible planting, including, for example:

- Productive trees, i.e. fruit and nut trees and trees with edible leaves

- Shrubs and fruit bushes
- Edible climbers and vines
- Edible herbaceous plants, both taller and ground covering species (this includes perennial vegetables and herbs, which grow in a range of environments, as well as more typical and widely known annual crops)
- Edible roots and tubers (and perhaps even edible fungi in suitable spots)

Within each edible landscaping design, it is important not only to consider each species to be included in isolation, but how to combine them in beneficial ways to create thriving systems which can sustain themselves over time.



Plant for Pollinators and Other Beneficial Wildlife

When creating edible landscaping, the most successful schemes are those which cater not only to human needs, but also to the needs of other occupants and users of the space.

Gardening for wildlife will not only be beneficial for that wildlife, but can also increase the yields possible in the space. Healthy biodiversity means that pollinators will be around to pollinate key food producing plants, and will also help with natural, organic pest control.



Flowering plants are not only beautiful; they help with wildlife attraction. Many of those new to edible landscaping are also surprised to learn just how many flowers usually considered to be ornamental options are actually edible. These plants, sometimes called "edimental" plants, are both beautiful and provide an edible yield. It is important to recognize that there need be no distinction between "ornamental" gardens and food-producing ones. With the right landscaping scheme, a garden can be both.

For more about edible landscaping, visit:

- <https://ediblelandscapes.wixsite.com/edible>
- <https://www.wisfarmer.com/story/news/2019/05/02/edible-landscaping-growing-idea/3612779002/>
- <https://www.almanac.com/edible-landscaping-selecting-right-plants>
- <https://mygardenlife.com/garden-tips/edible-landscaping>
- <https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/edible-landscaping-zmaz85mjzraw/>
- <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/documents/12281/ediblelandscapi ng.pdf>

Meet the Eastern Hognose Snake!

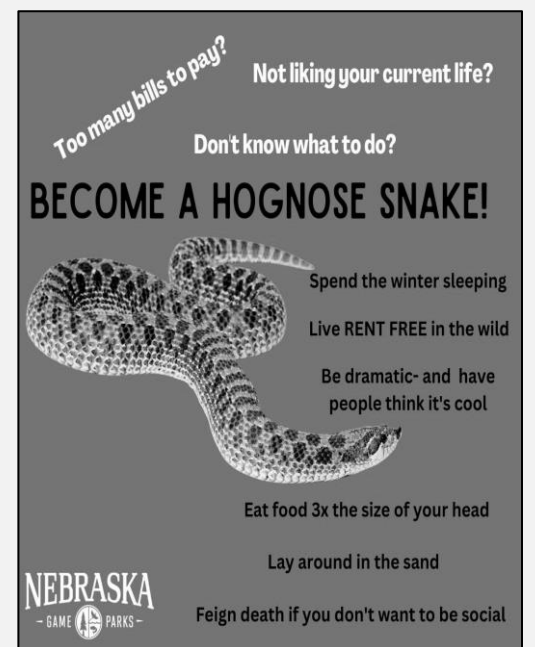


The hognose snake gets its name from its upturned snout. This snake will act tough when feeling threatened, flattening its neck and hissing, similar to a cobra! They will not bite in self-defense but will sometimes play dead!

- ✓ Hognose snakes have saliva that's venomous. It hardly affects humans, but it's lethal to the small prey they eat.
- ✓ Hognose snakes play dead when their other attempts to intimidate don't work. They're alert the entire time they're doing this act, and they defecate while emitting an unpleasant smell during this display.
- ✓ Hognose snakes have an altered rostral scale which gives them their pig-nosed appearance. They use this scale to dig into burrows or search for prey like toads.
- ✓ Hognose snakes try to mimic a cobra by flattening themselves and hissing (below). They also make their head more triangular like a viper. If this doesn't work, they play dead.



- ✓ The hognose snake has fangs in the back of its mouth instead of the front. That's because it's the saliva of the snake that's toxic, not injectable venom.



<https://www.eekwi.org/animals/reptiles/eastern-hog-nosed-snake>

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/H erps/6823>



Marinette County Breakfast on the Farm



Sunday, June 25, 2023, 7:30 a.m. to Noon (Rain or Shine)
Van De Walle Farm, W8303 W 22nd Road, Crivitz, WI

Van De Walle Farms are owned by the second and third generations. In 1973 when the farm was first purchased it started with a herd of 40 cows and 120 acres. Currently the farm milks 1600 dairy cows, raises 1000 heifers, and 370 steers. They farm 1200 acres of alfalfa and 2400 acres of corn. All the feed is raised on the farm. The cows are milked three times per day in a double twenty-three parallel parlor. The cows and heifers are bred artificially inseminated to Genex. The cows are housed in free stall barns with thick rubber mats topped with sawdust.

There are four sons, David, Brian, Paul, Scott, currently owner/employees along with their mother, Ann, with an additional 15 employees. At harvesting time, there are additional employees. There are also grandchildren that help out on the farm.

The family is a dedicated farm family producing high quality dairy products. They also are very active and volunteer in numerous community organizations such as 4-H and dairy promotions.

There have been many changes to the farm since their last Breakfast on the Farm in 2008 when they hosted. Come out and see the changes while enjoying a nutritious breakfast and meeting the Van De Walle family.

Pancakes, eggs, sausages, cheese curds, maple syrup, applesauce, milk, juice, coffee, ice cream sundaes, Adults – \$10.00 / Children 6-10 - \$5.00, Children 5 years & under – FREE (No advanced ticket sales), Petting zoo, Moo-Mania comedy show, face painting, balloons, kids bouncy play area, viewing of barns & cattle, music—co-sponsor Dairy Farmers of WI
Like us on Facebook—Marinette County Dairy Promotions WI / Any Questions Please contact Corey Kuchta @ 920-660-4182

Thank you to the following businesses for supporting the 2022 Breakfast on the Farm in money or in kind donations last year:

Platinum—\$1,000 or more

A&C Sawdust/Graese Elec
BelGioioso Cheese Inc
CHS Larsen Cooperative
Cornette Farm Supply & Vita
Dan Risner & Son Excavating
Dan Dependable Hoofcare LLC
Finger Family Farm LLC
Greenstone Farm Credit
Jandt Farms
Kozlovsky Dairy Equipment
Lofaro's Family Foods
Meatski's
Mt. Morris Mutual Insurance
Mursau's Piggly Wiggly
Nutrition Services
Patz Corporation
Pound Insurance Center
Valley Veterinary Clinic
Wiedemeier Sawmill
Witts Piggly Wiggly & Ace Hdw
Gold—\$500- \$999
American Foods Group
Baker Heating & Cooling
BMO Harris Bank
Coleman United Coop Shipping

Country Visions Cooperative
Culver's
Graef Transport Inc
Jandt Farms
Green Bay Insurance Center
Grover Porterfield Fire Dept.
Maple Valley Mutual Insurance
Nicolet Bank
N-K-S Tire Sales & Service
Peshtigo Feed Mill
Peshtigo National Bank
Peshtigo Times/Time Saver
Riesterer & Schnell Inc.
Waupaca Foundry
Wisconsin Public Service
Silver—\$250-499
Badgerland Cattle
Beaver Brook Maple Syrup
Beaver Machine
Charapata Seed Sales
Dairy Farmers of America
Dan Bieber Equipment LLC
Electrical Service & Supplies
Eric Schroeder Trucking
Foxland Harvestore Inc
Golden Ridge Dairy LLC
Graese Electric
Graetz Mfg
Great Lakes Foods
GVD Feed Covers
Harding Portables
Hometown Vet Clinic
Hoppe Dairy

Jacks Fresh Market
Kaufman Farms
KBM Construction
Kevin J Pepin D.D.S. , S.C.
Keith & Nancy Hartwig
Kozlovsky Dairy Equipment
Kuchta Farms
Menza & Zak Heating & Cooling
Nowak Construction
Nutrition Services
Oconto County Lumber
Oconto Electric Cooperative
P&D Sales and Service
Peters Concrete Co
Petal n' Roots
Phils Pumping & Fabrication
Rocket 88 Music DJ Navy Joe
Saputo Cheese, USA
Springside Cheese
St. Louis Concrete
Stephenson National Bank & Trust
Strutz Farm
Swiderski Equipment
Twohig Rietbrock Schneider & Halbach S.C.
Vanderloop Equipment
Van De Walle Farms
Wagner-Casper Ins. Agency
WI-MI Insurance Agency
Witt Auto Sales Inc
Zeamers Welding LLC
Bronze—\$100-249
Airgas
Alternative Animal Bedding
Blaser Acres
Burger King of Marinette
Chrysler World

Coleman Chiropractic Center LLC
Corteva AgriScience MSC-Pioneer H Breed
Countryside Veterinary Clinic
Crivitz Pharmacy
Crivitz Redi-Mix MCC Inc
Dan, Sue, Eric Van De Walle
D&D Equipment Inc
Dennis Schroeder Milk Trucking
Dudkiewicz Farm
Dufek Livestock Trucking LLC
Dumke Sales & Service
Equity Livestock Auction
Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust
Frank's Logging
Gendron's Inc
Genex Co-op Jeff Jahnke & Jeff Fischer
H.J. Dudkiewicz & Sons, Inc.
Ideal Tent & Party
Jakes Jumpers
Katie's Subs
Marinette County Holstein Association
Meg's Crivitz Pharmacy
Meyers MFG
Midwest Sidewalls
North Tech Pumps
North Wood Flooring
Northwoods Veterinary Clinic
Nutrition Professionals Inc
Patz Maple & Honey Farms
Precision Carts
Rymer Heating LLC
Seefeldt Farms
Sugar Bush Syrup Company
Tappin Teachers
United Cooperative
Wagner Sugar Hill
Waldvogel Trucking
Wisconsin Building Supply
Zorn Trucking



For more about Wisconsin's Dairy Breakfasts in 2023, visit https://agupdate.com/agriview/lifestyles/2023-wisconsin-dairy-breakfasts/article_1ae9dc7a-4054-52e2-8ea4-9e6a5ffefa17.html.



Meet the Lesser-Known Raptor Bird Species
<https://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/bird-species/birds-of-prey/raptors-amazing-birds-prey/>

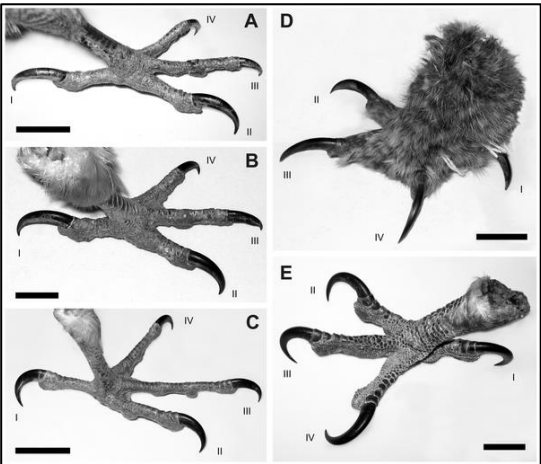


Some might consider raptors the bad boys (and girls) of the bird world, but it's unfortunate that they've acquired that reputation. Sure, their antics may seem gruesome, but they are among nature's finest hunters. And yes, it seems that almost everyone has a tale of a Cooper's hawk (above) harassing backyard birds. But if you can forgive raptors for thinking of your songbirds as a buffet, they really are a collection of the most fascinating birds you'll ever see. Many raptors are widespread and common, like red-tailed hawks, but let's explore some of the lesser-known avian carnivores.

Meet the Raptor Bird Family

Lumped together not by taxonomy but by behavior, raptors make a living eating other critters. Also known as *birds of prey*, the raptor bird group includes hawks, eagles, owls, falcons, harriers, kites and ospreys. Some people include New World vultures and condors, too, but these species are really more like scavengers than true hunters.

Predatory birds share similar characteristics and adaptations, including sharp beaks and talons and strong feet (below). Interestingly, most raptors use their feet for harvesting their prey, while the beak's function is to tear off bites of meat. To varying degrees, female raptors are often larger than their male counterparts; this allows the sexes to feed on different items of prey.



Some raptor species are generalists, eating a wide range of food that may include small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects and carrion. Others are very particular. Birds dominate the diet of accipiters, like the familiar Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks. On the other hand, many soaring hawks and the larger owls are specialized small-mammal predators. Smaller raptors tend to consume a larger percentage of insects.

Truly a collection of unique and intriguing birds, raptors have an unmatched grace and subtle beauty. They deserve respect, too: From the widespread American kestrel to the localized ferruginous pygmy-owl, being a bird of prey is a tough life.

Kites

Kites are a group of birds that have a somewhat limited range in the U.S., where they're mostly confined to the Southeast and the West Coast.

These medium-size raptors are also some of the most buoyant and graceful fliers. Their diet ranges from rodents to terrestrial snails, with insects making up a large portion of the intake of many kite species. The most widespread among this group is the Mississippi kite. Long common in the southern Great Plains and the Southeast, this species has recently been establishing new nesting areas (see sidebar). Landscape changes to the north have created more kite-friendly habitats, and Mississippi kites now nest in Colorado, Ohio, New Hampshire and points in between. These birds will often catch insects on the wing and then consume them in flight.

Some raptor bird species eke out a living at the far northern edge of the continent, far away from most of us. Birds like the great gray owl, northern hawk owl, gyrfalcon (below) and northern goshawk rarely venture south, except when extreme cold forces them to seek food.



<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Gyrfalcon/overview>

Another species to look for is the rough-legged hawk (below), a regular winter migrant throughout the U.S. You'll find these small-mammal specialists in open farmlands and prairies. Their dark bellies and large black patches on the underwing make them easy to pick out, even in flight. On long winter drives, rough-legged hawks can be the only signs of life at times.



<https://madisonaudubon.org/fff/tag/rough-legged+hawk>

The winter habits of snowy owls are much less regular. They don't have a classic migration pattern but instead make irruptive movements south to the northern U.S. in search of food. Snowy owls like to perch atop schools or other buildings, so keep an eye out for them.

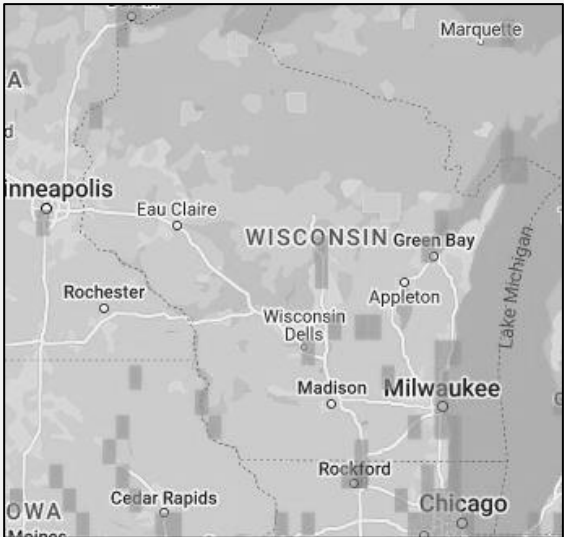


Mississippi Kite is now breeding in the Badger State

<https://www.birdwatchingdaily.com/news/science/mississippi-kites-breeding-range-expands/>;
<https://ebird.org/wi/species/miskit/US-WI>



In 2018, the Mississippi Kite was confirmed to be nesting in Wisconsin for the first time. The bird's breeding range has been expanding slowly northward, and for the last several years, a pair has nested in Rockford, Illinois, about 17 miles south of the states' common border. A juvenile grounded near Janesville, Wisconsin, about 15 miles north of the border, in August 2015 suggested the possibility of breeding. Then, in July 2016, local birders and volunteers with the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II spotted two adults near the place where the youngster was found the year before.



2023 observation map from <https://ebird.org/wi/species/miskit/US-WI>

It's a long-winged raptor with narrow, pointed wings that help it maneuver to catch insects in flight. They are gray overall with a whitish head, white secondaries on upperside of wing, and a black tail. This kite is graceful in flight with fluid wingbeats and long glides, and prefers riparian woodlands; but occasionally it occurs close to humans in suburban areas. They build a stick nest in the top of a tree and winter in South America.

